TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

April 25, 2005 LB 70

But I think that's kind of what we're all about, is figuring out what works and coming to a compromise, and I think that's what the...the direction that we should work on. I'm going to oppose the bracket motion. I urge you to do the same, and hopefully Senator Smith and Senator Jensen and those others interested in the bill can work out some sort of a compromise that makes some sense. So hopefully, we can do that, but I will be voting against the bracket motion. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Further discussion on the bracket motion, Senator Johnson, followed by Senator Chambers and others.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I thought it might be kind of fun to inject just a smidge of humor in here, and what it is, is this. Has any of you ever watched Dr. Tim Gay at a University of Nebraska football game. He's the professor of physics that provides some very interesting material that might apply to football. He might take about a player's helmet, for instance, and that a running back will be going at approximately 22 miles an hour or so, and then there will be a linebacker going the opposite direction, maybe running at 16 miles per hour or...and their helmets will collide, and he will go through all of the various foot pounds of energy expended when they collide and so on. Well, it makes for a kind of interesting halftime entertainment, beats some of the other things that are on. But here's a little thing that he did a little while back: Dr. Tim Gay, UNL professor of physics, performs a demonstration with a cantaloupe and a football helmet. The cantaloupe is selected as it contains similar physical characteristics of the human brain, not exactly a compliment but pretty true. Dr. Gay ascends a 10-foot ladder and drops the cantaloupe. It splits wide open. The impact at 10 feet, Dr. Gay explains, is still not that fast but not very great even though it is enough to split the cantaloupe. Dr. Gay then takes another cantaloupe, puts it in a football helmet, climbs this ladder and drops it the 10 feet again. cantaloupe is completely preserved. Dr. Gay explains that the helmet could have been dropped from a much greater distance and still protect the valuable contents inside. Dr. Gay concludes that whether a person is engaged in a high-impact sports or